



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

RQ-3

June 29, 2000

Ms. Sylvia L. Nolde, Treasurer
The Big Tent PAC
226 N Alfred Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

Identification Number: C00285098

Reference: Mid-Year (1/1/99-6/30/99), Year End (7/1/99-12/31/99) and April
Quarterly (1/1/00-3/31/00) Reports

Dear Ms. Nolde:

This letter is to inform you that as of June 28, 2000, the Commission has not received your response to our requests for additional information dated June 7, 2000. These notices request information essential to full public disclosure of your federal election campaign finances. To ensure compliance with the provisions of the Federal Election Campaign Act (the Act), please respond to these requests (copies enclosed).

An adequate response must be received at the Commission by July 19, 2000. Adequate responses received on or before this date will be taken into consideration in determining whether audit action will be initiated. **Requests for extensions of time in which to respond will not be considered.** Failure to provide an adequate response by this date may result in an audit of the committee. Failure to comply with the provisions of the Act may also result in an enforcement action against the committee. Any response submitted by your committee will be placed on the public record and will be considered by the Commission prior to taking enforcement action.

If you should have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Edward Ryan on our toll-free number (800) 424-9530 (at the prompt press 1, then press 2 to reach the Reports Analysis Division) or our local number (202) 694-1130.

Sincerely,

John D. Gibson
Assistant Staff Director
Reports Analysis Division

Enclosures



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

RQ-2

Ms. Sylvia L. Nolde, Treasurer
The Big Tent PAC
226 N Alfred Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

Identification Number: C00285098

JUN 7 2000

Reference: Year End Report (7/1/99-12/31/99)

Dear Ms. Nolde:

This letter is prompted by the Commission's preliminary review of the report(s) referenced above. The review raised questions concerning certain information contained in the report(s). An itemization follows:

-The totals listed on Lines 6(c), 7, and 23 Column B of the Summary and Detailed Summary Page(s) appear to be incorrect. Please be advised that you should add the "Calendar Year-to-Date" total from your previous report to the current "Total This Period" figure from Column A to derive the correct Column B totals. Please amend your report and any subsequent reports that may be affected by this correction.

-Your calculations for Lines 6(a) through 8 appear to be incorrect. FEC calculations disclose this amount to be \$51,609.83. Please provide the corrected totals on the Summary Page.

-Your calculations for Lines 11(a)(i), Column B through 20, Column B appear to be incorrect. FEC calculations disclose this amount to be \$57,272. Please provide the corrected totals on the Detailed Summary Page.

-Your calculations for Lines 21(b), Column B through 31, Column B appear to be incorrect. FEC calculations disclose this amount to be \$10,227.33. Please provide the corrected totals on the Detailed Summary Page.

-Commission Regulations require that a committee disclose the identification of all individuals who contribute in excess of \$200 in a

calendar year. (11 CFR §104.3(a)(4)(i)) Identification for an individual is defined as the full name, mailing address, occupation and name of employer. (11 CFR §100.12) Your report discloses contributions from individuals for which the identification is not complete.

You must provide the missing information, or if you are unable to do so, you must demonstrate that "best efforts" have been used to obtain the information. To establish "best efforts," you must provide the Commission with a detailed description of your procedures for requesting the information. Establishing "best efforts" is a three-fold process.

First, your original solicitation must include a clear and conspicuous request for the contributor information and must inform the contributor of the requirements of federal law for the reporting of such information. (11 CFR §104.7(b)(1))

Second, if the information is not provided, you must make one follow-up, stand alone effort to obtain this information, regardless of whether the contribution(s) was solicited or not. This effort must occur no later than 30 days after receipt of the contribution and may be in the form of a written request or an oral request documented in writing. (11 CFR § 104.7(b)(2)) The request must:

- clearly ask for the missing information, without soliciting a contribution;
- inform the contributor of the requirements of federal law for the reporting of such information, and
- if the request is written, include a pre-addressed post card or return envelope.

Third, if you receive contributor information after the contribution(s) has been reported, you shall either a) file with your next regularly scheduled report, an amended memo Schedule A listing all the contributions for which additional information was received; or b) file on or before your next regularly scheduled reporting date, amendments to the report(s) originally disclosing the contribution(s). (11 CFR §104.7(b)(4))

Please provide the missing information or a detailed description of your procedures for requesting the information. For more information on demonstrating "best efforts," please refer to the Campaign Guide.

-The beginning cash balance of this report should equal the ending balance of your Mid Year Report. Please clarify this discrepancy and amend any subsequent report(s) that may be affected by this correction.

-For future reporting, please be advised that only contributions to federal candidates and political committees should be itemized on a separate Schedule B supporting Line 23 of the Detailed Summary Page. Contributions to non-federal candidates and committees should be itemized on Schedule B supporting Line 29.

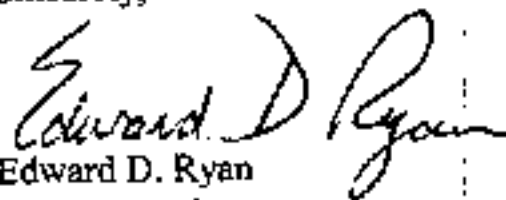
-Your report includes computer produced formats of the Summary Page, Detailed Summary Page, Schedule A, and Schedule B. Computer produced formats may only be used upon prior approval of the Commission. You should submit a separate sample format with a cover letter requesting approval. Until your format has been approved, FEC forms must be used.
11 CFR §104.2(d)

If the software your committee is using to produce the Schedules of the FEC FORM 3X does not allow you to electronically file your report, you may want to call the vendor who produced your software to inquire about the availability of a software upgrade that includes electronic filing. A number of commercial software companies have added electronic filing capability to their products. A list of these companies is available on the FEC web site, <http://www.fec.gov>.

Alternatively, freeware (FECfile) available from the FEC, can help you complete and file your reports electronically. It installs easily, computerizes every schedule in the FEC FORM 3X, contains features to help you avoid common errors, allows you to file electronically, and has free technical support for your questions. You may obtain your free copy by downloading FECfile from our web site, <http://www.fec.gov>, or by calling the Electronic Filing Office at (202) 694-1307.

A written response or an amendment to your original report(s) correcting the above problem(s) should be filed with the Federal Election Commission within fifteen (15) days of the date of this letter. If you need assistance, please feel free to contact me on our toll-free number, (800) 424-9530 (at the prompt press 1, then press 2 to reach the Reports Analysis Division). My local number is (202) 694-1130.

Sincerely,



Edward D. Ryan
Reports Analyst
Reports Analysis Division